

**From Health Information Technology to
Health Information Infrastructure:
*Transforming & Supporting the Ideal
Health Care System for Alaska***

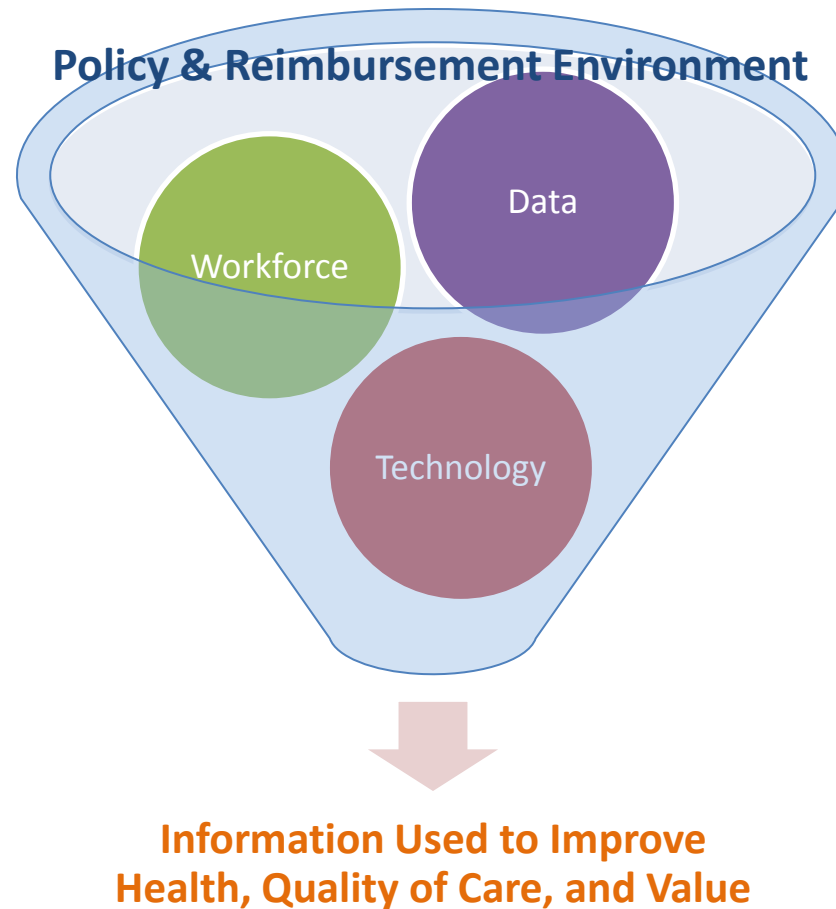
Alaska Health Care Commission

March 31, 2011

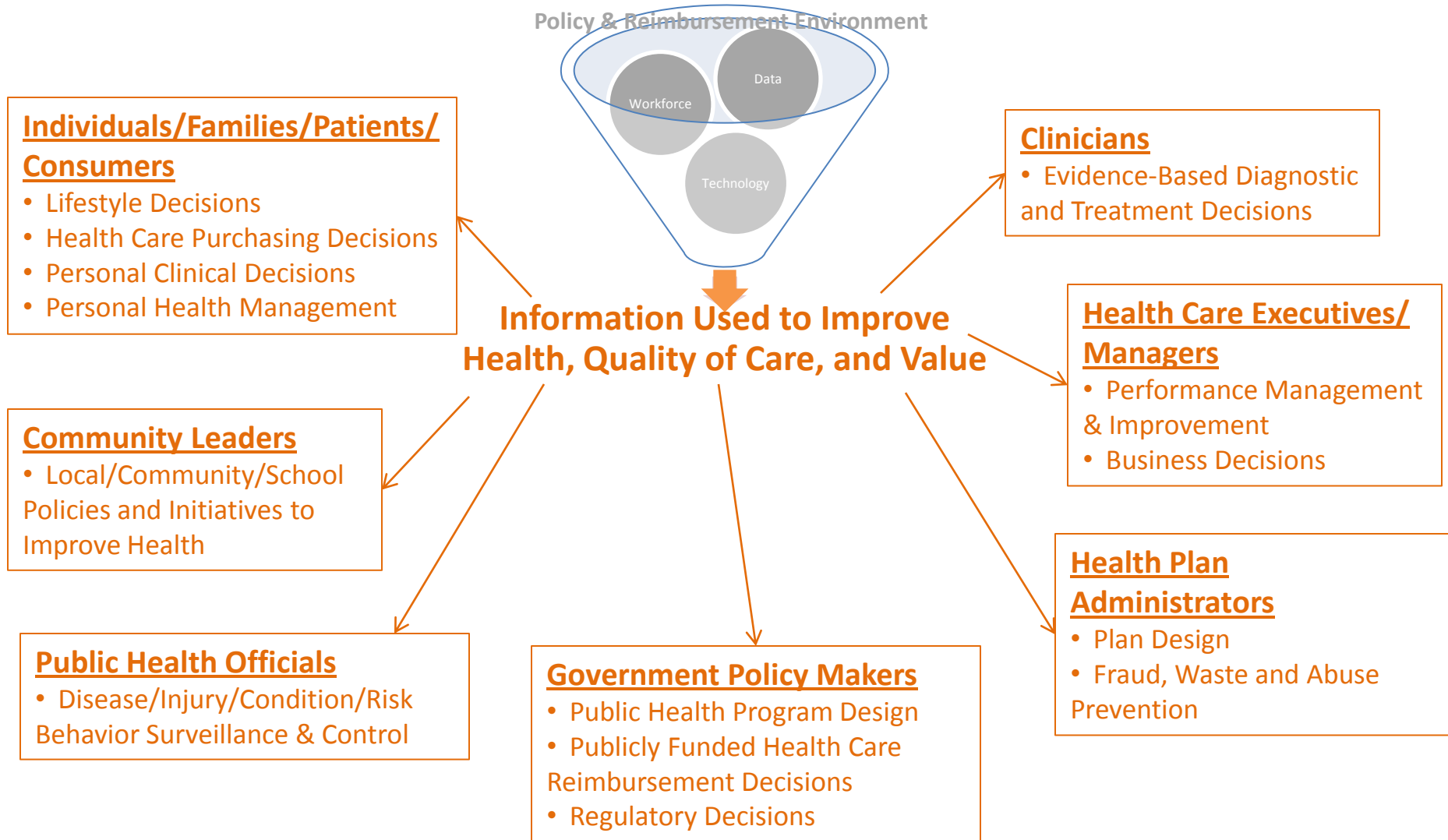
Session Purpose

1. Begin to develop an understanding of the full scope of the Health Information Infrastructure – what it is, how it works, and its significance to transforming and supporting the ideal health system for Alaska.
2. Consider expanding Commission’s definition of the health information cornerstone of the health care system’s foundation from “*Health Information Technology*” to “*Health Information Infrastructure*”.
3. Update the Commission on the major statewide HIT initiatives underway in Alaska.
4. Continue the discussion regarding the on-line public health community-based information system – discuss potential findings and recommendations for this year’s report.

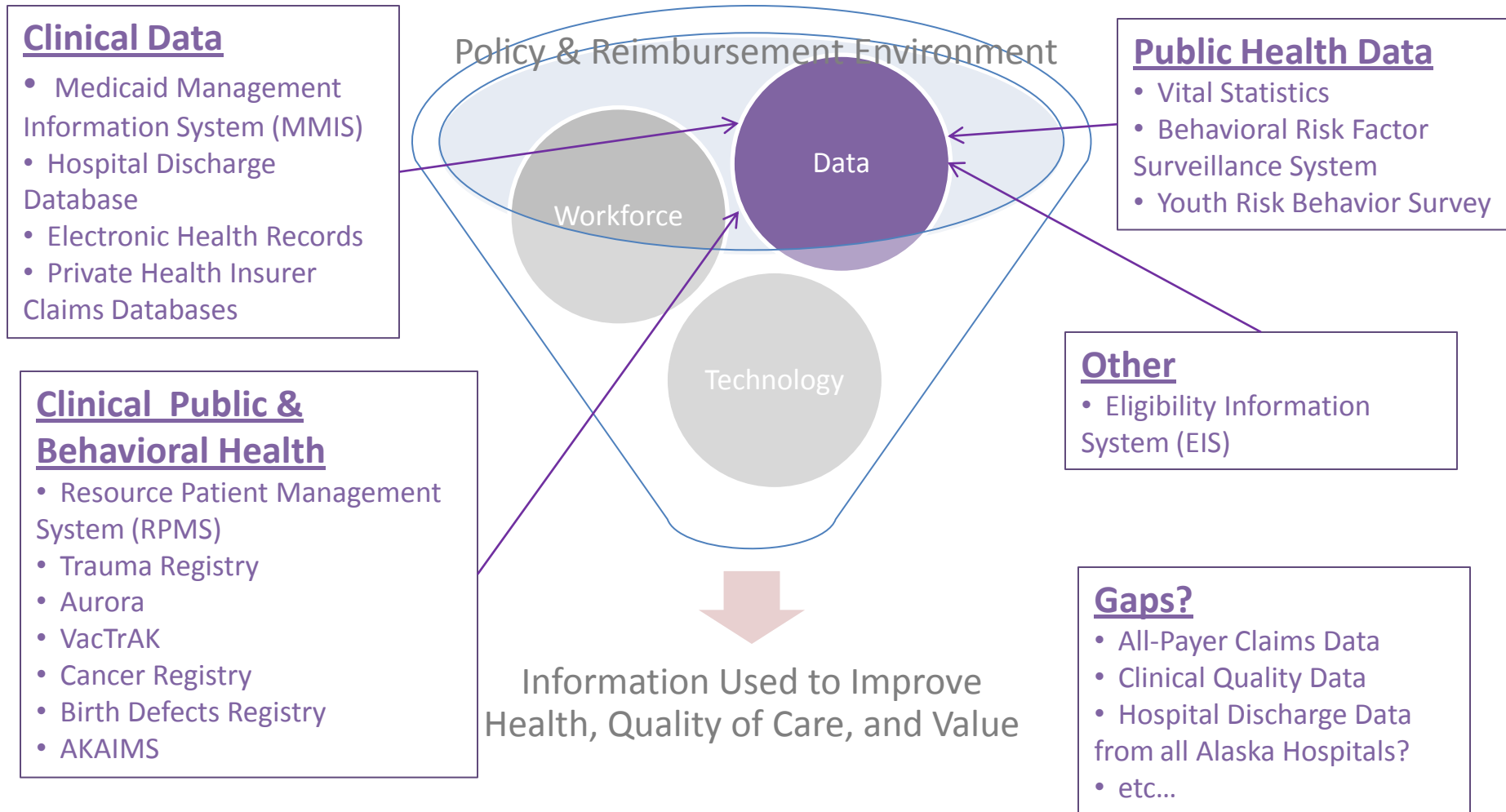
Health Information Infrastructure



Health Information Uses



Alaska's Health-Related Data Sources



Health Information Workforce

Training & Education

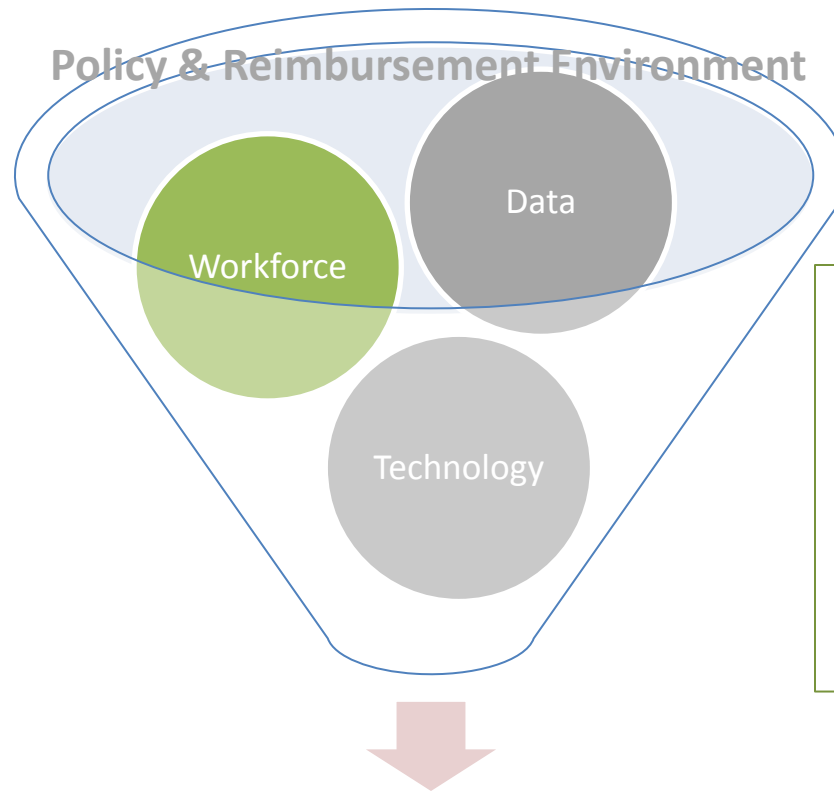
Occupations Supporting use of Technology

- Computer Programmers
- Systems Analysts
- HIT Management Specialists
- HIT Technical Support Specialists

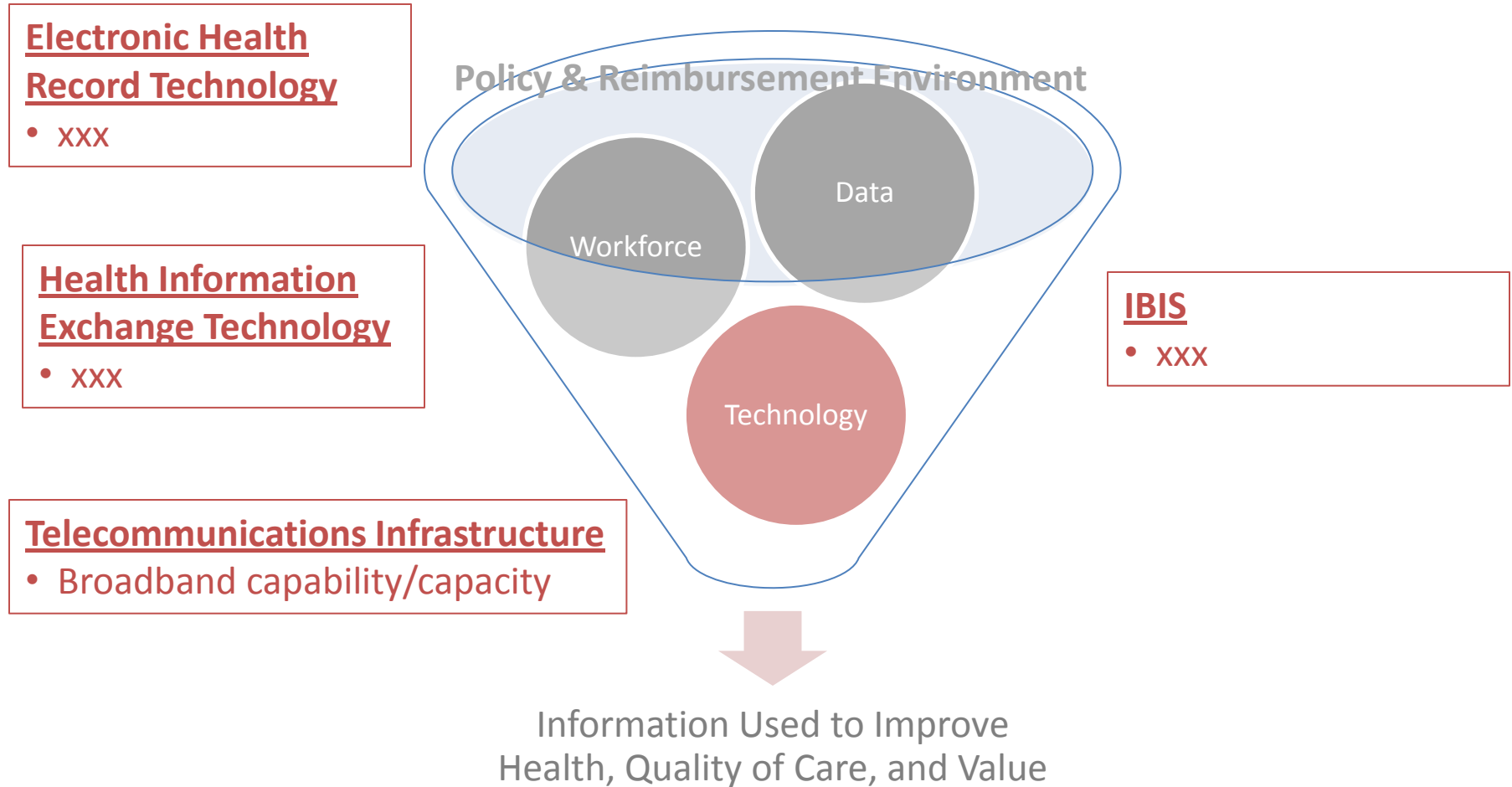
Employment Capacity

Occupations Supporting Data Collection & Analysis

- Research Analysts
- Epidemiologists
- Clinical Researchers
- Data Entry Techs/Clsks



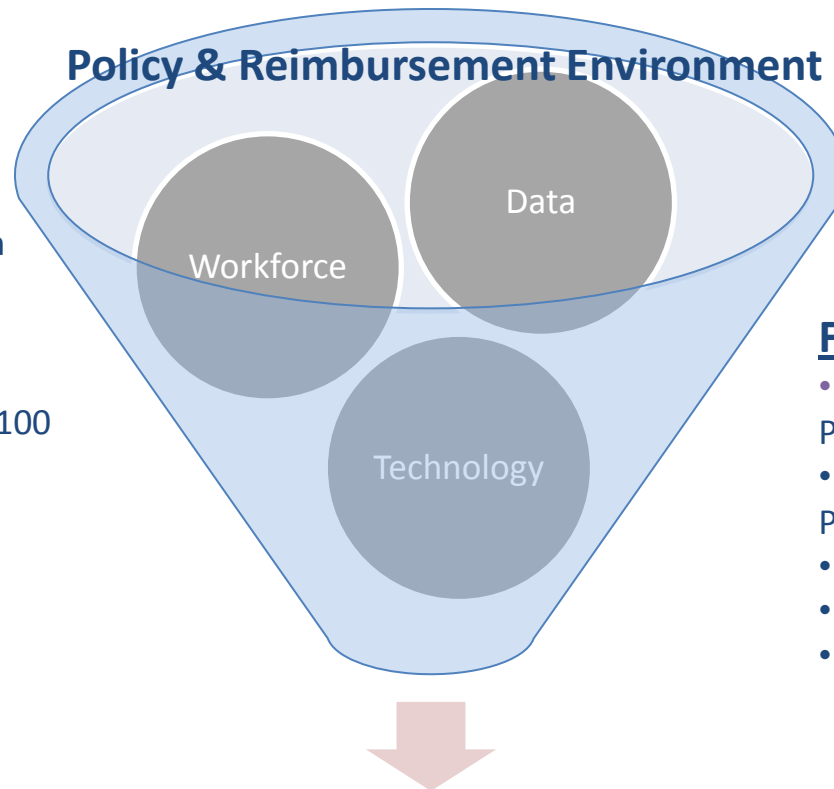
Health Information Technology



Policy & Reimbursement Environment

Policies

- Federal health information laws:
 - HIPAA
 - HITECH
- State EMR law: AS 18.23.100
- State HIE law: AS 18.23.300 (SB 133 2009)
- State public health information collection and disease reporting laws: AS 18.15.360-370
- etc...



Funding/Reimbursement

- Medicare EHR Incentive Program
- Medicaid EHR Incentive Program
- USDA Broadband Initiative
- UCC Universal Services Fund
- etc...

Information Used to Improve
Health, Quality of Care, and Value

Health Care Transformation Strategy

Build the Foundation

- *Statewide Leadership*
- *Workforce*
- *Health Info Technology*

Design Policies to Enhance the Consumer's Role in Health

Through

- *Innovations in Patient-Centered Care*
- *Support for Healthy Lifestyles*

Consumer's Role in Health

Innovative Patient-Centered Care and Healthy Lifestyles

ACCESS

Statewide Leadership

VALUE

Workforce

Health Information Technology

PREVENTION-BASED

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Health Information Infrastructure

PREVENTION-BASED

Foundation for Transformed System

Current General HIT Recommendation

- **Recommendation D1a:** The Commission recommends that the Governor and Alaska Legislature take an aggressive approach to supporting adoption, utilization, and potential funding of health information technology, including health information exchange, electronic health records and telemedicine/telehealth that promise to increase efficiency and protect privacy.

Current HIT: HIE/EHR

Recommendations

- **Recommendation D2a:** The Commission recommends that the Governor direct the Department of Health & Social Services to explore options for assisting providers (particularly smaller primary care practices and individual primary care providers) with adoption of electronic health record systems.
- **Recommendation D2b:** The Commission recommends that the Governor ensure Alaska's statewide health information exchange supports providers who have not yet adopted their own electronic health record system by facilitating identification and purchase of systems that are interoperable with the state exchange.
- **Recommendation D2c:** The Commission recommends that the Governor ensure that HIT is utilized to protect the public's health. Alaska's health information exchange should connect with electronic public health reporting systems to enable real-time disease reporting and rapid identification of public health threats.
- **Recommendation D2d:** The Commission recommends that the Governor ensure that data available through the statewide health information exchange is utilized to identify opportunities for administrative efficiencies, coordination and optimization of care, and health care quality and safety improvement.
- **Recommendation D2e:** The Commission recommends that the 2010 Alaska Health Care Commission track the development of the Alaska Statewide Health Information Exchange, Alaska's new Medicaid Management Information System (MMIS), and the use of ARRA funds for electronic health record deployment; and the Commission should continue to identify current issues, policy choices and recommendations based on these developments.
- **Recommendation D2f:** The Commission recommends that the Governor designate a statewide entity with the responsibility for ensuring broad implementation of health information security and privacy protections. The entity should participate in on-going efforts at the national level to identify security and privacy standards, should oversee application of those standards to Alaska's statewide health information exchange, and should identify a process for Alaskan patients to opt out of participation in the health information exchange.

Current HIT: Telemedicine/Telehealth Recommendations

- **Recommendation D3a:** The Commission recommends that the Governor and Alaska legislature work with federal and local partners to ensure all Alaskan communities have access to broadband telecommunications infrastructure that provides the connectivity and bandwidth necessary to optimize use of health information technologies.
- **Recommendation D3b:** The Commission recommends that the Governor direct the Alaska Department of Health & Social Services to investigate innovative reimbursement mechanisms for telemedicine-delivered services; test new payment methodologies through Medicaid, and work with other payers to encourage adoption of successful methodologies.